

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the current Abstract of the Disclosure with the following:

The apparatus includes a pulse emitter and at least one line fiber for conveying at least one pulse in the line fiber. A spreader module for linearly spreading pulses is provided including a propagation medium that is dispersive and linear. The propagation medium presents accumulated chromatic dispersion that is high enough to lower the peak power of the pulse to below a predetermined threshold, where a signal above the threshold is subjected to non-linear distortion in the line fiber. The spreader module is disposed between the emitter and the line fiber.